New Mexico Labor Market Review

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NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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According to preliminary estimates, New Mexico's unemployment rate improved from 8.7 to 8.3 percent in July 1988. Approximately 2,200 fewer persons were looking for work in July than one month earlier, and 2,100 more New Mexicans were employed than in June. Usually, the state's jobless rate can be expected to decline moderately this time of year due to such factors as summer hiring of youth and tourism-related increases in trade and services. However, the rather large four-tenths of a percentage point drop this July signifies continued long-term improvement in New Mexico's labor force.

Our monthly survey of nonagricultural employers across New Mexico indicated an overall decline of 3,200 in the number of workers on payrolls. Much of the decline was in government as public schools, classified in the local category, continued furloughing workers for the summer, and a federal agency in the Albuquerque area reported its normal summertime layoff. Other seasonal changes in July included employment gains in trade and service subsectors such as general merchandise stores, auto service stations, lodging places, and amusements & recreation facilities.

There was both good news and bad news coming from the other industries during July. Both construction and mining reported sub-par activity. In mining, oil & gas extraction posted a 300 job loss, pushing the industry to its lowest level since mid-1987. After a fairly healthy gain in June, construction reported no change in employment during July. Usually, construction experiences additional hiring activity in July. Employment in construction is now 2,100 below this time last year and over 8,000 jobs below its peak in mid-1984.

The good news continues to come from the manufacturing industry, as firms in transportation equipment manufacturing reported hiring during the month. Manufacturing is leading all industries in the state in percentage growth, with job increases of over four percent since last July.

In summary, July estimates indicate New Mexico's economy is continuing to show improvement, especially in industries such as manufacturing, trade, and services; however, the construction and mining sectors continue to lag behind.

	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Jul 1988	Jun 1988	Jul 1987	Jun 1988	Jul 1987
Civilian Labor Force	692,200	692,300	685,400	- 100	+6,800
Employment	634,500	632,400	626,200	+2,100	+8,300
Unemployment	57,700	59,900	59,200	-2,200	-1,500
Rate	8.3%	8.7%	8.6%		

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

NEW MEXICO	PRELIM JUL 1988	REVISED JUN 1988	REVISED JUL 1987	JUL CHANGE FROM JUN 1988	JUL CHANGE FROM JUL 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	538,400	541,600	530,100	-3,200	8,300
MINING	15,200	15,500	15,000	-300	200
Metal Mining	2,200	2,200	2,100	0	100
Bituminous Coal, Quarrying etc	4,000	4,000	3,800	0	200
Oil & Gas Extraction	9,000	9,300	9,100	-300	-100
CONSTRUCTION	31,100	31,100	33,200	0	-2,100
MANUFACTURING	40,500	40,400	38,800	100	1,700
DURABLE GOODS	27,900	27,800	25,800	100	2,100
Lumber & Wood Products	2,800	2,800	2,700	0	100
Machinery(except electric)	2,600	2,600	2,400	0	200
Elec & Electronic Equip	5,600	5,600	4,800	0	800
Transportation Equipment	5,500	5,400	4,900	100	600
Other Durable Goods	11,400	11,400	11,000	0	400
NONDURABLE GOODS	12,600	12,600	13,000	0	-400
Food & Kindred Products	3,600	3,600	4,200	0	-600
Textile & Apparel	2,700	2,700	2,700	0	0
Other Nondurable Goods	6,300	6,300	6,100	0	200
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	27,800	28,100	28,100	-300	-300
TRANSPORTATION	12,100	12,300	12,000	-200	100
Railroad Transportation	2,100	2,100	2,200	0	-100
Trucking & Warehousing	6,100	6,100	6,000	0	100
Other Transportation	3,900	4,100	3,800	-200	100
COMMUNICATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	15,700	15,800	16,100	-100	-400
Communication	6,900	6,900	7,000	0	-100
Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services	8,800	8,900	9,100	-100	-300
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	133,300	132,800	129,600	500	3,700
WHOLESALE TRADE	22,800	23,000	22,800	-200	0
Durable Goods	13,400	13,500	13,200	-100	200
Nondurable Goods	9,400	9,500	9,600	-100	-200
RETAIL TRADE	110,500	109,800	106,800	700	3,700
Bldg Material & Mobile Homes	4,600	4,600	4,500	0	100
General Merchandise Stores	12,100	11,900	11,900	200	200
Food Stores	15,500	15,400	15,100	100	400
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	13,600	13,400	13,200	200	400
Apparel & Accessories	5,600	5,500	5,500	100	100
Furniture & Furnishing	4,400	4,400	4,300	0	100
Eating & Drinking Places	42,800	42,800	40,600	0	2,200
Miscellaneous Retail	11,900	11,800	11,700	100	200
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	27,900	27,800	27,400	100	500
Banking	8,200	8,200	8,100	0	100
Insurance Carriers	3,900	3,900	3,800	0	100
Insur Agents, Brokers & Service	3,000	3,000	2,800	0	200
Real Estate	6,800	6,700	6,700	100	100
Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate	6,000	6,000	6,000	0	0
SERVICES	128,700	127,900	125,100	800	3,600
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	12,100	11,800	12,100	300	0
Personal Services	5,900	6,000	5,700	-100	200
Business Services	31,000	30,900	29,500	100	1,500
Health Services	31,500	31,400	30,600	100	900
Legal Services	4,600	4,600	4,400	0	200
Educational Services	4,100	4,200	3,900	-100	200
Social Services	6,600	6,600	6,900	0	-300
Membership Organizations	8,000	7,800	8,300	200	-300
Other Services	24,900	24,600	23,700	300	1,200
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	133,900	138,000	132,900	-4,100	1,000
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	30,100	30,500	31,100	-400	-1,000
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	103,800	107,500	101,800	-3,700	2,000
State Government 2/	44,600	45,200	44,400	-600	200
Local Government	59,200	62,300	57,400	-3,100	1,800

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.
2/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

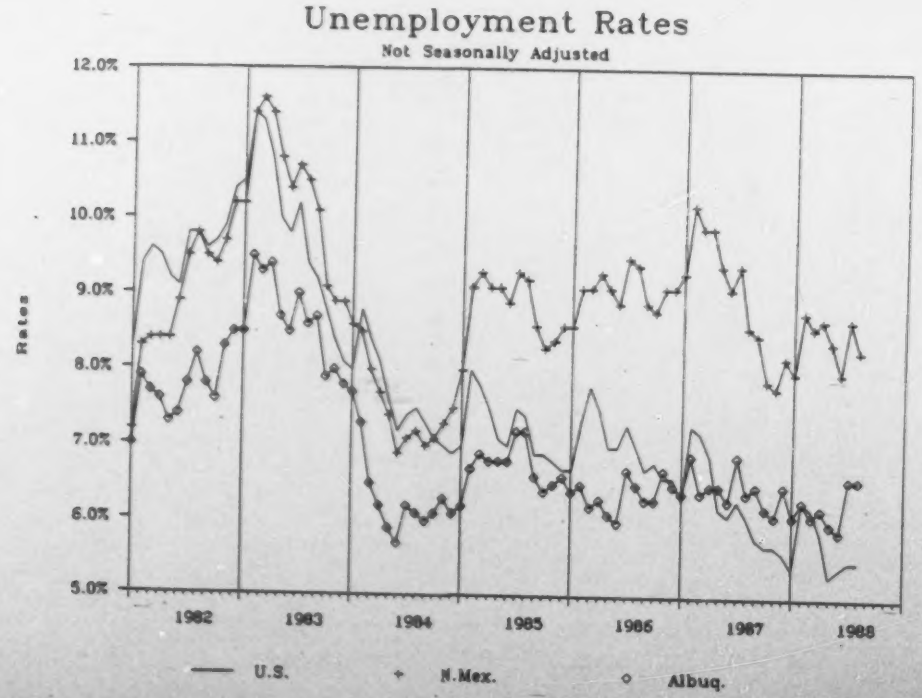
ALBUQUERQUE AREA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)

Albuquerque's unemployment rate in July was unchanged from June at 6.6 percent, according to preliminary estimates. Both total employment and unemployment fell slightly during the month. Albuquerque's labor force continues to reflect stability. The area's unemployment rate has remained in the 6 percent range since late 1985, in contrast to the ups and downs suffered by many areas of the state, especially the oil & gas areas, over the last three years.

During July, total nonagricultural payroll employment in Albuquerque declined by 1,200 jobs, with seasonal furloughs in the government and transportation sectors accounting for the majority of the reduction. The University of New Mexico, Albuquerque Public Schools, Social Security Administration, and school bus contractors all experience layoffs this time of year. Modest job gains in the 100 to 300 range were reported in the remaining major industries.

Payroll employment in Albuquerque has grown by 4,700 or two percent over the last year, compared with 1.6 percent growth statewide over the same period. Albuquerque's trade and government sectors have led the way, each with job growth of over three percent. As is usually the case, the highly labor-intensive restaurant subsector reported the largest amount of hiring in retail trade, with an increase of 1,400 jobs. In government, both the state and local subsectors, which include public schools and state-supported higher education institutions, posted increased employment, while federal government reported slightly fewer workers than last July. Manufacturing added 500 jobs or 2.5 percent, accounted for largely by hiring in the electronic equipment and machinery manufacturing subsectors. Construction remains the only major industry reporting fewer jobs over the year; however, the 300 or 2 percent job loss in Albuquerque is considerably less than the 6 percent decline shown by construction statewide.

	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Jul 1988	Jun 1988	Jul 1987	Jun 1988	Jul 1987
Civilian Labor Force	265,800	266,200	259,300	-400	+6,500
Employment	248,200	248,500	242,800	-300	+5,400
Unemployment	17,600	17,700	16,500	-100	+1,100
Rate	6.6%	6.6%	6.4%		



ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

ALBUQUERQUE MSA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)	PRELIM JUL 1988	REVISED JUN 1988	REVISED JUL 1987	JUL CHANGE FROM JUN 1988	JUL CHANGE FROM JUL 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	235,600	236,800	230,900	-1,200	4,700
MINING	200	200	200	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	15,900	15,800	16,200	100	-300
MANUFACTURING	20,500	20,400	20,000	100	500
Durable Goods	14,900	14,900	14,500	0	400
Nondurable Goods	5,600	5,500	5,500	100	100
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	12,100	12,300	12,100	-200	0
Transportation	5,800	6,000	5,700	-200	100
Communication	3,800	3,800	3,900	0	-100
Elec, Gas, & Sanitary Services	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	62,200	62,000	60,200	200	2,000
WHOLESALE TRADE	14,200	14,300	14,200	-100	0
Durable Goods	9,600	9,600	9,500	0	100
Nondurable Goods	4,600	4,700	4,700	-100	-100
RETAIL TRADE	48,000	47,700	46,000	300	2,000
General Merchandise Stores	5,100	4,900	4,900	200	200
Food Stores	5,300	5,200	5,100	100	200
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	4,800	4,800	4,700	0	100
Eating & Drinking Places	19,900	19,900	18,500	0	1,400
Other Retail Trade	12,900	12,900	12,800	0	100
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	15,200	15,100	15,000	100	200
Banking	3,400	3,400	3,300	0	100
Ins Carriers, Agents & Brokers	4,300	4,300	4,200	0	100
Other Fin, Ins & Real Estate	7,500	7,400	7,500	100	0
SERVICES	65,300	65,000	64,400	300	900
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	4,000	4,000	3,900	0	100
Personal Services	2,700	2,700	2,900	0	-200
Business Services	21,300	21,200	20,800	100	500
Health Services	14,700	14,600	14,500	100	200
Social Services	2,700	2,800	3,000	-100	-300
Membership Organizations	2,100	2,000	2,200	100	-100
Other Services	17,800	17,700	17,100	100	700
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	44,200	46,000	42,800	-1,800	1,400
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	13,300	13,600	13,400	-300	-100
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	30,900	32,400	29,400	-1,500	1,500
State Government	10,400	11,000	9,900	-600	500
Local Government	20,500	21,400	19,500	-900	1,000

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)
(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

LAS CRUCES MSA (DONA ANA COUNTY) 1/	PRELIM JUL 1988	REVISED JUN 1988	REVISED JUL 1987	JUL CHANGE FROM JUN 1988	JUL CHANGE FROM JUL 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/	39,850	39,850	38,600	0	1,250
MINING	50	50	50	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2,300	2,300	2,300	0	0
MANUFACTURING	4,000	3,900	4,100	100	-100
Durable Goods	1,600	1,600	1,700	0	-100
Nondurable Goods	2,400	2,300	2,400	100	0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,100	1,150	1,250	-50	-150
Transportation	300	350	400	-50	-100
Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs	800	800	850	0	-50
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	8,800	8,750	8,000	50	800
WHOLESALE TRADE	900	900	850	0	50
RETAIL TRADE	7,900	7,850	7,150	50	750
General Merchandise Stores	900	900	850	0	50
Food Stores	1,150	1,100	1,050	50	100
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	1,100	1,100	950	0	150
Eating & Drinking Places	3,100	3,100	2,800	0	300
Other Retail Trade	1,650	1,650	1,500	0	150
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	1,800	1,750	1,700	50	100
SERVICES	6,700	6,750	6,200	-50	500
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	700	700	700	0	0
Business Services	1,500	1,500	1,350	0	150
Health Services	1,900	1,850	1,800	50	100
Social Services	300	300	250	0	50
Other Services	2,300	2,400	2,100	-100	200
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	15,100	15,200	15,000	-100	100
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	4,300	4,300	4,500	0	-200
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	10,800	10,900	10,500	-100	300
State Government	5,300	5,300	5,400	0	-100
Local Government	5,500	5,600	5,100	-100	400

SANTA FE MSA (SANTA FE & LOS ALAMOS COUNTIES) 1/	PRELIM JUL 1988	REVISED JUN 1988	REVISED JUL 1987	JUL CHANGE FROM JUN 1988	JUL CHANGE FROM JUL 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 2/	57,200	56,950	55,600	250	1,600
MINING	50	50	100	0	-50
CONSTRUCTION	2,700	2,600	2,800	100	-100
MANUFACTURING	1,750	1,750	1,650	0	100
Durable Goods	1,150	1,150	1,050	0	100
Nondurable Goods	600	600	600	0	0
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,200	1,250	1,150	-50	50
Transportation	450	450	400	0	50
Comm, Elec, Gas & Sanitary Svs	750	800	750	-50	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	11,600	11,500	10,800	100	800
WHOLESALE TRADE	850	850	850	0	0
RETAIL TRADE	10,750	10,650	9,950	100	800
General Merchandise Stores	950	950	950	0	0
Food Stores	1,250	1,250	1,300	0	-50
Auto Dealers & Service Stations	850	850	800	0	50
Eating & Drinking Places	5,000	4,900	4,400	100	600
Other Retail Trade	2,700	2,700	2,500	0	200
FINANCE, INSURANCE, & REAL ESTATE	2,000	2,000	2,100	0	-100
SERVICES	15,700	15,500	15,300	200	400
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	2,100	2,000	2,050	100	50
Business Services	3,400	3,300	3,400	100	0
Health Services	3,400	3,400	3,300	0	100
Social Services	600	600	650	0	-50
Other Services	6,200	6,200	5,900	0	300
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	22,200	22,300	21,700	-100	500
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT	1,700	1,600	1,700	100	0
STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT	20,500	20,700	20,000	-200	500
State Government 3/	16,500	16,500	16,300	0	200
Local Government	4,000	4,200	3,700	-200	300

1/ In accordance with the CES Manual, those published cells with less than 2,000 employees are rounded to nearest 50. Those published cells with more than 2,000 employees are rounded to 100.
2/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.
3/ Includes employees of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS

Hours and Earnings of Production, Construction and Nonsupervisory Employees
(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

NEW MEXICO	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	JUL 1988	JUN 1988	JUL 1987	JUL 1988	JUN 1988	JUL 1987	JUL 1988	JUN 1988	JUL 1987
MINING	$493.27	$509.58	$497.88	40.8	42.5	42.7	12.09	11.99	11.66
CONSTRUCTION	$452.78	$450.36	$406.95	39.1	40.5	38.5	11.58	11.12	10.57
MANUFACTURING	$360.28	$355.11	$350.27	40.3	39.9	39.4	8.94	8.90	8.89
Durable Goods	$375.83	$372.37	$362.50	41.3	41.1	40.1	9.10	9.06	9.04
Nondurable Goods	$317.72	$309.86	$321.77	37.6	36.8	37.9	8.45	8.42	8.49
COMMUNICATION & UTILITIES	$619.75	$593.49	$558.15	43.4	43.1	43.1	14.28	13.77	12.95
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	$223.41	$217.44	$227.44	33.0	32.6	33.3	6.77	6.67	6.83
Wholesale Trade	$363.81	$346.80	$377.51	40.2	40.0	40.9	9.05	8.67	9.23
Retail Trade	$203.20	$192.82	$198.43	31.7	31.2	31.8	6.41	6.18	6.24
BANKING	$239.94	$240.03	$223.82	38.7	38.1	38.0	6.20	6.30	5.89
ALBUQUERQUE MSA	JUL 1988	JUN 1988	JUL 1987	JUL 1988	JUN 1988	JUL 1987	JUL 1988	JUN 1988	JUL 1987
MANUFACTURING	$380.43	$375.84	$358.27	40.3	40.5	39.5	9.44	9.28	9.07
Durable Goods	$401.02	$395.93	$376.93	41.3	41.2	40.4	9.71	9.61	9.33
Nondurable Goods	$315.72	$313.34	$300.94	37.1	38.4	36.7	8.51	8.16	8.20

NOTE: Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded. The average earnings are "gross" reflecting not only changes in basic hourly and incentive wage rates but also such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differentials. The work week information relates to the average hours for which pay was received, and is different from standard or scheduled hours due to absenteeism, labor turnover, part time work, overtime work etc.

U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Beginning with the release of January 1988 data, the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics has shifted the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to a new reference base year, 1982-84 = 100. Historical data for the CPI series on the new base are available from the U.S. Department of Labor by writing to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 525 Griffin St., Room 221, Dallas, TX 75202, or by calling (214) 767-6970.

	Jul. 1988	Jun. 1988	Jul. 1987	Percent Change Jun'88-Jul.'88	Jul.'87-Jul.'88
CPI-U	118.5	118.0	113.8	+0.4%	+4.1%
CPI-W	117.2	116.7	112.7	+0.4%	+4.0%

Index Base Year 1982-84 = 100

CPI-U - All Urban Consumers
CPI-W - Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Area Economic Activity

Albuquerque Area: Public Service Company of New Mexico announced it will layoff approximately 700 workers statewide because of its current financial difficulties. About 500 of the workers are in the Albuquerque area, and another 170 worked in Farmington. Construction has started on the Banquest Bank Building at the corner of Second Street and Lomas Boulevard N.W. The new 5-story 103,000-square-foot building will cost approximately $10 million and be completed in about a year. Also underway is construction of the Marshall Building, a 78,000-square-foot, $5-million office building located at 7770 Jefferson N.E. A new Mitsubishi car dealership has opened at 725 Wyoming N.E.; this is the first full-line dealership of its kind in Albuquerque. Construction should start on the new Riverview Shopping Center between Paradise Hills and Taylor Ranch sometime this fall. The proposed $7 to $9 million shopping center will consist of three separate buildings totaling over 147,000 square feet. The old Spaghetti Machine restaurant on Wyoming near Menaul is being torn down to make room for a new shopping strip center to be called Hoffmantown Square. Work will begin on the new center in October. One of the first stores to move into the new center will be a fast food restaurant called El Pollo Loco. The new restaurant is the first of seven which a national chain plans to build in the city. Rally's, a national hamburger chain, also is negotiating for three sites in Albuquerque, and the firm plans to open a total of nine stores throughout the state. Demolition of the old Monroe Junior High School at the corner of Indian School and Louisiana N.E. also began in August; an office/retail complex will be built at the site. Printon Inc., a new circuit board firm, may locate its first factory in Albuquerque. The company will employ 25 people initially. Three Alan's clothing stores in Albuquerque and one in Santa Fe have closed their doors; the last and largest store at Park Square on Indian School Road N.E. will close in the near future. A new Furr's Food Emporium opened in August at the Coors Central Shopping Center. Construction of Drug Emporium is scheduled for completion in December; the center will also contain space for up to ten other retail stores. Ashcraft Real Estate and Development Corporation has started construction on a $15 million office complex. The three-story, 50,000-square-foot building will be called 1700 Louisiana Place NE (which gives you an idea of where it will be located), and is expected to be ready for occupancy next March. A second building is in the planning stage for the site. A Pennsylvania cutting die maker plans to move to Rio Rancho. The company, Xynatech, plans to start operations in the city's industrial park by the first part of next year. Xynatech will be staffed by 30 to 35 employees, most of whom will be local.

Artesia / Carlsbad Area: The first trainees at the Artesia satellite of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center could start to arrive as early as January if congressional approval is given for the new facility, according to officials. The facility, which will be at the former Artesia Christian College, is expected to train as many as 7,000 persons per year. The center will employ a permanent staff of 30, however, the majority of the operations such as security, dormitory and food services, and grounds maintenance will be contracted out to private firms.

Belen Area: The Santa Fe Railway is planning to expand the Belen fueling station at a cost of approximately $5 million. Construction should begin this October and be completed by January of next year. There has been no indication that the Railway will hire additional workers to operate the expanded facility.

Clovis / Portales Area: Frozfruit Corporation plans to move its California manufacturing operation to Clovis, making the New Mexico plant the sole manufacturer of the frozen fruit bars produced by the company. The move is expected to result in an additional 50 to 70 jobs and year-round operation for the Clovis facility. Pony Pack Incorporated, the new Fort Sumner firm which manufactures an auxiliary engine warming system for use in the trucking industry, is scheduled to ship its first units in August. Pony Pack recently added its seventh full-time employee, according to company officials.

Hobbs / Lovington Area: Chevron U.S.A. announced that it will not close its Hobbs operation, as earlier expected, and the firm may even move some employees to Hobbs as part of a corporate reorganization. Chevron, which currently employs 180 workers in Hobbs and 700 in nearby Midland, TX, has announced the closure of its 700-worker Denver, CO operations. Rich Meat Service in Hobbs is expanding into the international market, and the firm is expected to hire an additional 25 to 30 workers in the near future.

Las Cruces Area: The Dona Ana County Commission is establishing a task force to study the impact on the Anthony area of the new B.P. John furniture plant scheduled to open there in late 1989. The new 350,000-square-foot plant could employ as many as 700 workers, and the commission wants to insure that adequate housing and educational services are provided for the large number of workers needed for the new plant. RCI Services Company of Albuquerque is moving its El Paso industrial chemicals warehouse to Chaparral, N.M., southeast of Las Cruces. The area green chile harvest got underway in early August, however, the harvest has been hampered by rainfall. The harvest should extend through the end of September. The new K-Mart discount store in the Northrise Shopping Center in Las Cruces opened for business on August 1.

Los Alamos Area: The Department of Energy plans to stop funding for a $13.5 million laser program at Los Alamos National Laboratory next year. Lab officials indicated they will attempt to find other employment for the 90 people working on the program. The $13.5 million program is relatively small compared to the lab's total budget of about $900 million. Construction has started on a 12,000-square-foot office building at the corner of Trinity Drive and Oppenheimer Drive. The two-story structure should be completed in December of this year.

Raton Area: The Salt River Project (SRP), in bankruptcy proceedings for Kaiser Coal Company, has offered to pay Kaiser $50 million to release the utility from a 25-year contract. The contract requires SRP to purchase $320 million worth of coal from Kaiser each year. Officials at the mine feel that if the bankruptcy judge accepts SRP's offer, 180 employees at the mine will lose their jobs.

Roswell Area: Good news for the area economy continues to come from the Transportation Manufacturing Corporation (TMC) in Roswell. TMC has received a $30 million, 150-bus order from Greyhound Lines, which should mean an additional 100 workers at the Roswell bus manufacturing plant. According to officials, TMC is expected to employ approximately 2,000 workers by the end of the year. The City of Roswell was awarded a $600,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation for runway improvements at the Roswell Municipal Airport. A Texas-based company, Alderman-Cave Milling and Grain, has purchased the former J.P. White feed plant, located east of Roswell. Alderman-Cave currently operates five grain elevators in West Texas and a large livestock feed plant in Winters, Texas.

Santa Fe Area: The proposed WIPP bypass highway in Santa Fe could receive an additional $7.2 million as part of a $10.8 billion transportation department bill recently approved by the full U.S. House of Representatives. The bill will go before the Senate in the near future. The entire roadway project in Santa Fe could cost up to $120 million to complete. Four new stores plan to open soon at the Villa Linda Mall. The stores are Pearle Vision, Afterthoughts Boutique, Lee's Hoagie House, and Field Management. According to mall officials, the south-side shopping complex is about 75 percent occupied.

Silver City / Lordsburg Area: The Nevada corporation which wants to start mining gold in the Burro Mountains has revised its operating plan to lessen the impact on the environment. Casco de Oro Incorporated is currently awaiting federal and state approval for the mine project, which could employ up to 80 workers for the three to four years. A new Super 8 motel opened on U.S. 180 East in Silver City.

Taos Area: Construction has started on the new Holiday Inn Don Fernando de Taos. The $8.2 million hotel is scheduled for completion in May of 1989 and will employ 65 to 75 people.

NEW MEXICO LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES 1/

	PRELIMINARY JULY 1988				REVISED JUNE 1988				REVISED JULY 1987			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE	692,182	634,461	57,721	8.3%	692,312	632,410	59,902	8.7%	685,401	626,158	59,243	8.6%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 2/	265,782	248,167	17,615	6.6%	266,168	248,518	17,650	6.6%	259,355	242,840	16,515	6.4%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	55,323	50,959	4,364	7.9%	56,330	51,234	5,096	9.0%	54,355	49,958	4,397	8.1%
SANTA FE MSA 4/	69,277	65,681	3,596	5.2%	69,206	65,468	3,738	5.4%	67,890	64,212	3,678	5.4%
Catron	1,325	1,197	128	9.7%	1,290	1,173	117	9.1%	1,378	1,264	114	8.3%
Chaves	23,652	22,091	1,561	6.6%	23,159	21,557	1,602	6.9%	22,752	20,897	1,855	8.2%
Cibola	9,140	7,985	1,155	12.6%	9,048	7,847	1,201	13.3%	9,485	8,192	1,293	13.6%
Colfax	7,916	6,716	1,200	15.2%	7,912	6,651	1,261	15.9%	7,698	6,882	816	10.6%
Curry	16,356	15,194	1,162	7.1%	16,227	14,902	1,325	8.2%	17,130	15,837	1,293	7.5%
De Baca	948	838	110	11.6%	909	810	99	10.9%	1,035	942	93	9.0%
Eddy	20,302	18,367	1,935	9.5%	20,268	18,163	2,105	10.4%	21,154	18,260	2,894	13.7%
Grant	10,416	9,502	914	8.8%	10,392	9,440	952	9.2%	10,169	9,242	927	9.1%
Guadalupe	1,647	1,381	266	16.2%	1,642	1,377	265	16.1%	1,753	1,495	258	14.7%
Harding	427	375	52	12.2%	424	362	62	14.6%	493	439	54	11.0%
Hidalgo	2,547	2,368	179	7.0%	2,549	2,393	156	6.1%	2,643	2,494	149	5.6%
Lea	22,372	20,569	1,803	8.1%	22,288	20,507	1,781	8.0%	22,720	20,343	2,377	10.5%
Lincoln	7,620	7,145	475	6.2%	7,454	6,954	500	6.7%	7,751	7,321	430	5.5%
Luna	5,855	4,991	864	14.8%	5,718	4,841	877	15.3%	5,824	5,014	810	13.9%
McKinley	17,532	15,384	2,148	12.3%	17,414	15,263	2,151	12.4%	17,738	15,412	2,326	13.1%
Mora	1,345	917	428	31.8%	1,367	920	447	32.7%	1,403	1,009	394	28.1%
Otero	18,282	16,692	1,590	8.7%	18,513	16,875	1,638	8.8%	17,977	16,632	1,345	7.5%
Quay	4,596	4,253	343	7.5%	4,588	4,211	377	8.2%	4,722	4,369	353	7.5%
Rio Arriba	13,544	11,365	2,179	16.1%	13,976	11,573	2,403	17.2%	13,913	11,439	2,474	17.8%
Roosevelt	6,535	6,179	356	5.4%	6,484	6,048	436	6.7%	7,028	6,561	467	6.6%
Sandoval	26,956	24,661	2,295	8.5%	25,858	23,588	2,270	8.8%	24,214	22,328	1,886	7.8%
San Juan	32,706	28,183	4,523	13.8%	32,963	28,431	4,532	13.7%	33,984	28,659	5,325	15.7%
San Miguel	10,102	8,846	1,256	12.4%	10,143	8,889	1,254	12.4%	10,211	8,959	1,252	12.3%
Sierra	2,433	2,294	139	5.7%	2,565	2,411	154	6.0%	2,562	2,397	165	6.4%
Socorro	6,071	5,442	629	10.4%	5,951	5,327	624	10.5%	5,877	5,293	584	9.9%
Taos	10,123	7,816	2,307	22.8%	10,320	7,768	2,552	24.7%	10,815	8,196	2,619	24.2%
Torrance	3,455	3,097	358	10.4%	3,497	3,091	406	11.6%	3,616	3,234	382	10.6%
Union	1,972	1,838	134	6.8%	1,965	1,800	165	8.4%	2,190	2,027	163	7.4%
Valencia	15,625	13,968	1,657	10.6%	15,724	14,018	1,706	10.8%	15,566	14,011	1,555	10.0%

1/ All estimates are made in strict accordance with methodology provided by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Bernalillo County

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Dona Ana County

4/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Santa Fe and Los Alamos Counties

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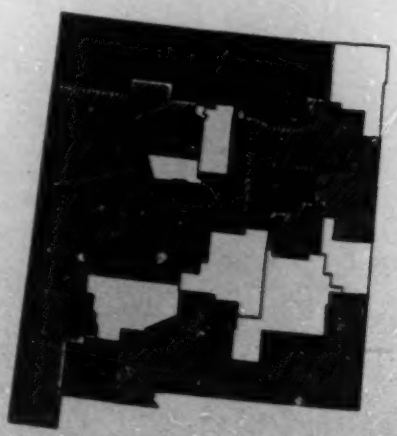
New Mexico
Unemployment Rates by Area
July 1988



Legend

- 5.2 to 7
- 7 to 9.5
- 9.5 to 12.7
- 12.7 to 32.8